DOCUMENT RESUME

ED 404 890 HE 027 258

TITLE National Report on Australia's Higher Education Sector.
INSTITUTION Australian Dept. of Employment, Education and Training, Canberra.
REPORT NO ISBN-0-644-25660-5
PUB DATE 93
NOTE 400p.
AVAILABLE FROM Commonwealth Information Services, Australian Government Publishing Service, GPO Box 84, Canberra, Australian Capital Territory 2601 Australia (Cat. No. 92-2651-5, Australian $34.95).
PUB TYPE Reports - Descriptive (141)

EDRS PRICE Document Not Available from EDRS.
DESCRIPTORS Access to Education; College Administration; College Curriculum; College Faculty; Diversity (Institutional); *Educational Finance; *Educational History; Educational Research; *Educational Trends; Financial Support; Foreign Countries; *Government School Relationship; *Higher Education; Research; Trend Analysis
IDENTIFIERS *Australia; Diversity (Student)

ABSTRACT

This document provides an official record of key events in the development of higher education in Australia from 1982-91 and documents the characteristics of the system and the individual institutions at the beginning of the 1990s. A foreword describes the Australian higher education sector, key developments of the decade, the sectoral balance, and Australian characteristics. Chapter 1 covers the history of higher education from World War II through the early 1980s. Chapter 2 looks at government aims and system organization during 1982-91. Chapter 3 treats system growth in participation. Chapter 4 treats finance including long term funding trends, factors affecting funding levels, amalgamation, and charges and fees. Chapter 5 looks at Commonwealth government and higher education relations. Chapter 6 covers institutional management. Chapter 7 presents information on staff: characteristics, functions, academic labor market, and industrial relations. Chapter 8 covers the curriculum and delivery of courses for different types of institutions and various disciplines. Chapter 9 treats student access and diversity. Chapter 10 describes external linkages between sectors and other nations. Chapter 11 addresses higher education research, the national research system, research and teaching, the Australian Research Council, research programs, and related topics. The final chapter looks at diversity and performance indicators. An index is included. (JB)

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